

Should we change WestRock Family Church to Belvedere Family Church?

Drissa Kone
December 3, 2015

Re: Should we change the name of WestRock Family Church to Belvedere Family Church?

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I would like to ask you to consider a name change for our community. Recently, Bishop Kim and Dr. Balcomb have suggested that our community think about the possibility of using the name Belvedere Family Church instead of WestRock Family Church. For them, most people in the extended Unification community are not familiar with the name WestRock. I have experienced this myself when I visited California recently for the new pastor's training. When I mentioned WestRock people asked me where was WestRock? When I said Belvedere Family Church in Tarrytown, people naturally knew where we were located because of the historical meaning behind Belvedere.

So, I have discussed with Rev. Compton and Rev. Clarke about the history of WestRock and proposed the following to the Council. The Council has discussed this, and add their support in proposing this to the community.

Brief history of the name of our community The first name members used was Belvedere community. At that time, True Father was still speaking at the podium we are still using at the training center. Then, Rev. Eric Holt became the first pastor and the name was changed to Westchester Church. When Rev. Clarke became the pastor he proposed to change it to WestRock Family Church because members were from both Westchester and Rockland counties.

Today, we have members from Westchester and Rockland, but also Orange County, New Jersey and Manhattan. The name of WestRock is not as relevant as it used to be. Additionally, Belvedere is well known by the unification community worldwide compared to Westrock! Finally, members who joined in Belvedere still feel connected to the name Belvedere because of the memorable experiences they had! It could also be a historical legacy to the next generation.

For these reasons above I am suggesting that we change the name of our community to Belvedere Family Church. Please see the Council's form (online is preferred, but hardcopies will be available at Sunday Service) for gathering your input, the deadline is 11:59pm, Sunday Dec. 13:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1QyPRj5F2MqaRFvbJuEf-uTFUA-Rle4gzZ9wmAgefYGc/viewform>

Sincerely,

Rev. Kone
Head Pastor
WestRock Family Church

Potential name change of WestRock Family Church

Hello everyone,

The Council has discussed our head pastor's and national leadership's suggestion to change our community name to Belvedere Family Church, and we see no reason not to change our name.

However, we understand this is a significant decision and that it requires input from the entire community. Please vote below, and feel free to share your opinion on this matter. We are asking for names so there is only one response per person. The deadline is 11:59pm, Sunday Dec. 13.

Sincerely,
The WestRock Council

Elisa Hack, Steve Honey, Akiko Morris, Justin Okamoto,
Peter Reiner, Jessica Sattinger, Lynn Walsh, and Kester Wilkening

* Required

First and last name: *

Your answer

Do you think we should change our name from "WestRock Family Church" to "Belvedere Family Church"? *

- Yes
- No
- Abstain

Please briefly explain your choice: *

Your answer

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